

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES



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Testimony of Department of Motor Vehicles
Commissioner Melody A. Currey
Transportation Committee Public Hearing
February 13, 2013

<u>Proposed H.B. No. 6027</u> AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN VEHICLES ABANDONED AT CAMP SITES.

Good morning Senator Maynard, Representative Guerrera, Senator Boucher, Representative Scribner and other members of the Transportation Committee.

I am here today to testify against HB 6027, AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN VEHICLES ABANDONED AT CAMP SITES.

The stated purpose of Public Act 6207 is "to allow the owner of any camp site or campground to take title, after an appropriate period of time, to any abandoned camper or recreational vehicle on such owner's camp site or campground to allow such owner to remove such camper or recreational vehicle."

There is already a provision in section 14-145 of the Connecticut General Statutes for the towing or removal of an unclaimed motor vehicle from private property. If, in fact, the proposed section is to allow the campground owner to take title to the vehicle in order to sell it, there are a number of issues that arise. Various safeguards must be put in place to ensure that the owner and any lien holder of titled property are notified of the intent to sell. It would also require the campground owner to account for all proceeds from a sale in order to ensure that they are distributed properly. This requires the Department to implement various procedures that place an undue burden on its resources.

This is similar to legislation that was implemented several years ago that allowed self-storage facilities to sell motor vehicles left in storage. The Department spent several months drafting and adopting regulations and setting up various procedures that are rarely ever used. In a time when agencies are being asked streamline procedures and to do more with less, this appears to be an imprudent use of resources.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify and comment on this proposed legislation.